

INFORMATION PACKET SERIES

HAITI:

COUNTRY CONDITIONS, DECEMBER 1995 - JULY 1996

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The July 27, 1990 Regulations, "Aliens and Nationality: Asylum and Withholding of Deportation Procedures," mandated the creation of a new corps of Asylum Officers to provide an initial, nonadversarial adjudication of asylum claims. Asylum Officers use asylum law, interviews with asylum applicants, and relevant information on country conditions to determine the merits of individual claims for asylum.

The Resource Information Center was created to assist Asylum Officers domestically, and Immigration Officers determining refugee status overseas, by collecting and disseminating credible and objective information on human rights conditions. As specified in the Regulations (8 CFR 208.12), such information may be obtained from the Department of Justice, the Department of State, or "other credible sources, such as international organizations, private voluntary organizations, or academic institutions."

Resource Information Center Information Packets are one of the means by which information reflecting a wide range of credible sources is presented to Asylum and Immigration Officers. The views expressed in Resource Information Center Information Packets do not necessarily represent official U.S. Government opinion, nor do they reflect U.S. foreign policy concerns. This Information Packet was compiled on the basis of publicly available information, analyses, and comment. All sources are cited. This Information Packet cannot be, and does not purport to be, either exhaustive with regard to the country surveyed, or conclusive as to the merits of any claim to refugee status or asylum. Updates to this Information Packet may be made from time to time.

DETAILED TABLE OF CONTENTS

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